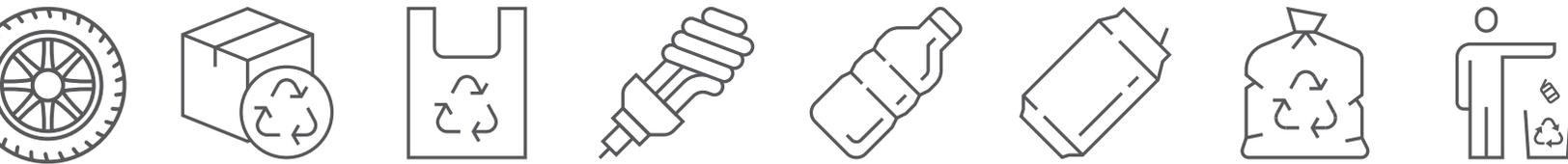




CHAMPION of the
ENVIRONMENT
SCHOLARSHIP
2021





Are you a Grade 12 student in Nova Scotia, who has demonstrated a commitment to the environment?

Divert NS is offering up to seven scholarships to students who have exemplified leadership in protecting our environment.

To be awarded one of the scholarship prizes, your entry must include:

- A summary of your recent environmental activities.
- A letter of reference from someone in your school or community.
- A research essay focusing on this year's topic.
- A contact information form (included in this package).

Submissions must be emailed in PDF or Word format to scholarship@divertns.ca (preferably one PDF document).

Deadline for submissions: Sunday, May 2, 2021 by midnight.

DETAILS. DETAILS. DETAILS.

Summary of Environmental Activities

Submit a summary demonstrating how you have been involved in protecting the environment. Your contribution can be within your school or community and it is not limited to recycling or waste management. Maybe you have been a champion for clean air or water, have helped promote energy efficiency, or organized a community garden or litter clean-up. In **750 words** maximum, tell us:

- The organization(s) or initiative(s) you are involved in
- How long you have been involved
- Your contribution to the cause

Letter of Reference

Submit a letter of reference from a member of your school or your community that is familiar with your environmental activities. A few things to remember:

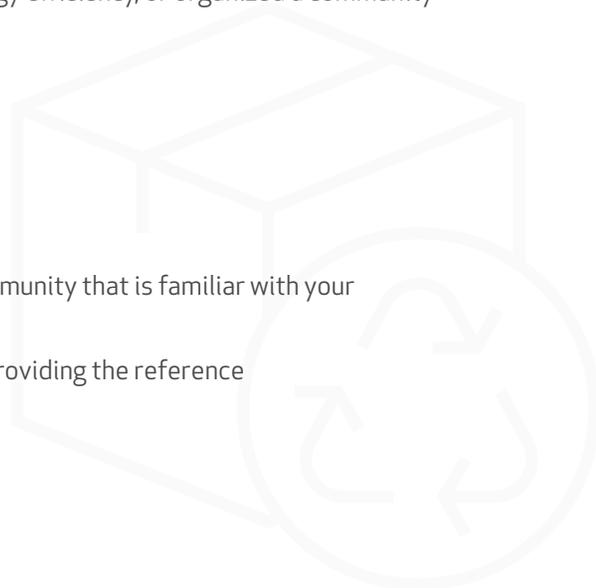
- Your letter, preferably on letterhead, must be signed by the person providing the reference
- Your reference cannot be a relative
- Maximum **500 words**

\$20,000 in scholarships!

Divert NS is offering the following:

- One (1) \$5,000 provincial scholarship
- Six (6) \$2,500 regional scholarships

Winners will be announced in June 2021.



Research Essay for 2021

The scholarship research essay topic changes each year. For 2021, submit a research essay focusing on the efforts of governments and retailers to reduce food waste:

According to the National Zero Waste Council, more than a third of food produced and distributed in Canada never gets eaten, while globally about half of all food produced is not eaten. The significant environmental, economic, and social consequences of this food waste have led many governments and retailers to establish reduction targets and commitments. For example, Canada's leading food retailers announced in 2019 a voluntary commitment to measure, monitor, and act on reducing food waste to 50% by 2025, and the U.S. government has committed to reducing food waste by 50% by 2030.

For this essay, research at least two food waste reduction targets in Canada or globally, and discuss how their establishment could reduce the environmental impacts of food waste. What steps are retailers and/or governments taking to reach these targets, and what additional steps could they implement? Are voluntary targets and commitments enough, or are additional policies, regulations and tools needed? What food waste reduction targets or related policies could be implemented in Nova Scotia?

A few points to note:

1. Your cover page should include your name, Grade, name of your school, and the title of the essay.
2. You must provide an executive summary. Summaries may be written or in video format. Written summaries should be approximately one page in length, double spaced. Video summaries should be approximately two minutes in length.
3. The written essay component must include research and sources cited using APA format.
4. Only one author per essay.
5. **Maximum 1,500 words** for the written essay (exclusive of executive summary and references).

JUDGING

Divert NS will assemble a judging committee of both internal staff and external partners to review the submissions. Scoring will be based on your research essay (40%) and environmental leadership (60%).

Research Essay (40%)

- Creativity and effort
- Accuracy of research
- Organization and clarity of ideas
- Grammar, spelling, and syntax

Environmental Leadership (60%)

- Description of activity, including impact on the environment
- Level of leadership/impact
- Letter of reference
- Duration of involvement

OFFICIAL RULES

- This scholarship competition is open to Grade 12 students in Nova Scotia.
- Entries must be submitted before the closing date of midnight on Sunday, May 2, 2021.
- The following individuals are not eligible to receive a scholarship: Immediate family of, or those domiciled with:
 - * Current and former employees and board members of Divert NS.
 - * Employees of the Nova Scotia Environment Solid Waste Resource Management Section.
 - * Employees of regional and municipal waste management authorities.
- A scholarship will be awarded in a region only if a submission merits a scholarship. All decisions of Divert NS and the scholarship judging committee are final.
- Scholarships are issued directly to post-secondary institutions on behalf of the winning students.
- All entries become the property of Divert NS once they are submitted and may be used for publicity, promotion, marketing, illustration, advertising, web content, and all multi-media materials.
- By accepting a scholarship, the winner authorizes Divert NS to use, in any related publicity, the winner's name, city and province of residence, and any statements he/she may make regarding such scholarship for advertising and promotional purposes in any form of media, including the Internet.
- Incomplete submissions and submissions with falsified information will be disqualified. The decision to disqualify any submission is at the sole discretion of Divert NS and will occur without notice or communication to the entrant. The disqualification decision is final and not subject to review.

CONTACT FORM

Name _____

Mailing Address

Telephone Number _____ Email _____

School Name _____

Principal _____ Principal's Email _____

School Mailing Address

School Telephone Number _____

How did you find out about the scholarship?

Teacher(s)/guidance department

Friend(s)/Family

Internet (specify) _____

Other (specify) _____

Student Declaration:

All of the information I have provided in my submission is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. My summary of environmental activities and research essay are original, written by me. I have read and understood the rules of the Divert NS Champion of the Environment Scholarship program and have fulfilled each and every requirement.

Student Signature _____

ABOUT DIVERT NS

Divert NS is a not-for-profit corporation championing recycling and waste reduction in Nova Scotia. For over 20 years we have helped build a culture of recycling and refusing to waste through environmental stewardship, education, and programming that has made Nova Scotia a recognized global innovator in recycling and waste diversion solutions. Divert NS is a registered business name of the Resource Recovery Fund Board, Inc.